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EMERGING LEADERS GROUPS
CO./SERIALS BRANCH
**Emerging Leaders Group is Special
Guest of the Secretary**



Taking a moment for a group shot are (left to right, back row) Geoffrey Gay, Betty Jo Nelsen, Birge Watkins, Ramona Justice; (front row) Sue Krebs-Smith of HNIS, Clayton Yeutter, Sharon Bingham, former HNIS Acting Administrator James Heimbach, and Alana Landey.

A breakfast was recently held in the Secretary's dining room to honor 19 young USDA leaders who were nominated to Secretary Yeutter for selection for the Emerging Leaders Group.

The FNS nominees were Alana Landey and Sharon Bingham, Office of Analysis and Evaluation; Geoffrey Gay, Office of Regional Operations; and Ramona Justice, Personnel Division. Sharon Bingham was selected by the Secretary to represent the Department (see "The Friday Letter" article dated March 23, 1990).

The Emerging Leaders Group is sponsored by the Riggs National Bank and provides an opportunity for the next generation

of leaders to exchange ideas and build relationships. The group will meet every 2 months with today's leaders from Government and private industry.

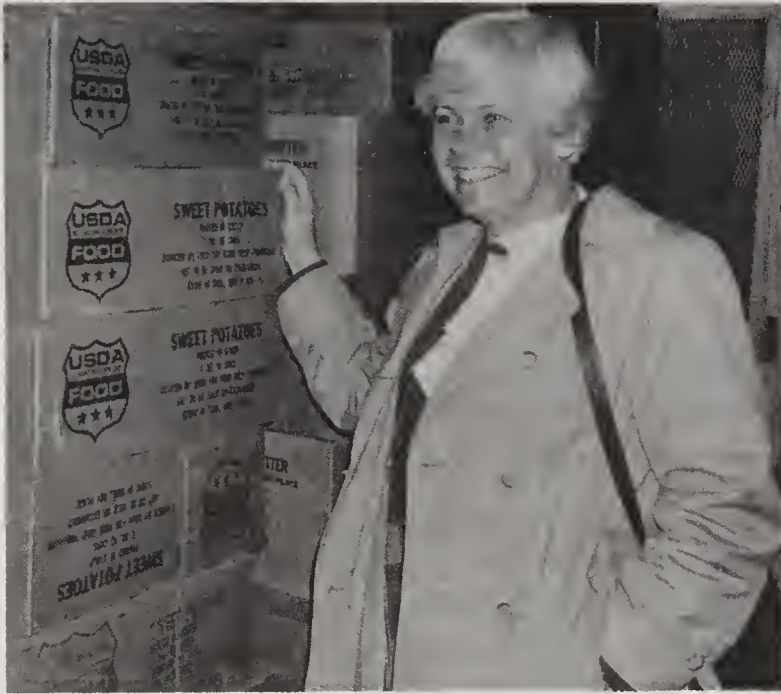
Those present at the breakfast included Secretary Yeutter, Assistant Secretary Vila, Deputy Assistant Secretary Watkins, Administrator Nelsen, Larry Slagle, director, Office of Personnel, a representative of the Riggs National Bank, the nominees, and their sponsors.

The event gave the nominees an opportunity to meet one another. Some expressed interest in establishing an Emerging Leaders Group in the Department. The purpose and structure would be similar to the Riggs program, which consists of discussion groups and meetings with speakers. A meeting has already been scheduled this month for the nominees to brainstorm on the concept of a group for the future leaders of USDA.

-Story by Venita Smith
Personnel Division
Photo by Pamela Faith
Public Information Staff

Administrator Nelsen Visits MWRO Program Sites

Administrator Betty Jo Nelsen recently visited five FNS food assistance sites in Chicago, including the Daniel Hale Williams WIC Clinic to view the new on-line Illinois Redesign Automated Data Processing System.



Nelsen saw USDA commodities in use at the Chicago Industrial League. The league supports a food bank and soup kitchen, which serve approximately 1,000 persons each day and provide emergency shelter for street people--both men and women. Nelsen took special note of USDA commodities in this food storage area.



The Administrator had lunch with students at the LaSalle Language Academy and later visited the Neon Street Center for Youth (ages 13 to 21).

She later traveled to the South Michigan Street District Food Stamp Office to see firsthand the automated integrated client information system (Client Data Base) that supports the

application, authorization, and reporting processes for all public assistance programs.

Following her Chicago visit, Nelsen presented the keynote address to the Family Assistance Conference in Milwaukee followed by lunch with children at Brown Elementary School. She also met with Milwaukee public school officials who administer the National School Lunch Program.

-Story and photos by Mary Jane Getlinger, MWRO Public Affairs Staff

FNS Good Will Means Disaster Relief

As a result of Hurricane Hugo and the California earthquake, the Federal Women's Program (FWP) sponsored the FNS Disaster Relief Drive. Money was donated from headquarters and regional employees to aide these victims. Of the \$2,200 contributed, each of the disaster areas received half.

Administrator Betty Jo Nelsen (second right) recently presented a check for \$1,100 to Jeannie Bettis, Office of the Governor of South Carolina. Tommy Mitchell, special assistant to the assistant secretary, helped coordinate the effort along with Donna Hines, project coordinator. Bettis told



(Relief Continued)

Nelsen that FNS was the only Federal agency to make this gesture. The money will be disbursed by the South Carolina Hugo Relief Fund, which is administered by the Governor's office in Columbia. With no administrative or overhead costs, 100 percent of the money will go directly to provide shelter and relocation assistance for the displaced victims. As Donna Hines told Nelsen and Bettis, "We raised this money because we wanted to not because it was part of our job. It was simply the right thing to do."

A check for \$1,100 slated for earthquake relief has been donated to the Santa Cruz Adult Protective Services, which serves senior and disabled citizens. WRO Acting Regional Administrator Jack Boozer and FWP Manager Anne Silverman (left) recently presented the check to Nancy Goodban, acting administrator of the Santa Cruz County Human Resources Agency, for the Adult Protective Services. Standing by is Don Allegri, Santa Cruz Adult Protective Services.



Some of the money has already been used to buy "Companion for Life" medallions, which are worn by the elderly or disabled and allow them to simply push a button to summon help in an emergency. Furniture has also been given to elderly Santa Cruz residents whose homes were demolished after the quake. "We're really putting the funds toward some creative resources for our recipients," Goodban said, adding that

the Companion for Life can be used whenever the wearer needs emergency assistance--not only in disaster situations.

Several WRO employees were also recognized by the Federal Executive Board for their first aid and bilingual assistance. Peter Bauer, Judy Yudico, Mike Jacob, Julie Haugen, and Betty Dixon, all food program specialists in the Food Stamp Program, and Thanh Huynh of Administrative Services, were recognized in a ceremony and received certificates of appreciation.

-Story by Donna Hines
Special Nutrition Programs and
Kristen Bole
WRO Public Affairs Staff
Photos by Pamela Faith
Public Information Staff and
Kristen Bole

Workshop on Aging Held at MARO

The camera slowly panned to the slightly hunched man in an oversize coat. "I thought I'd get married at 35, have a child at 40 and die at 50. Here I am at 79 going on 80," he quipped.

The vignette appeared in a video production on sensory deprivation and improving communication with the elderly, which was shown recently at MARO during a six-part workshop, "As People Grow Older."

The sessions, designed to illustrate how to deal with problems associated with growing older, were organized by MARO EEO Director Brenda Styles. The hour-long presentations were conducted by medical and support service staff from the geriatrics department of a local hospital and a lawyer who had served as a consultant to the New Jersey Commission on Bioethics.

The group gave a very thorough perspective of the emotional and psychological aspects of aging, chronic

illness and behavioral changes that occur with age, and how to tap community resources for help with health care, transportation, support, and legal problems.

The legal and financial issues session elicited the most questions from the workshop participants, many of whom care for elderly parents and other relatives.

According to the two registered nurses who conducted most of the workshop, only 5 percent of the elderly are living in nursing homes, while the rest are in other places, like the homes of relatives.

The workshop leaders referred to the majority of home caregivers as the "sandwich generation" - women who take care of their own children as well as their older relatives.

-Story by Marian Wig
MARO Public Affairs Staff



Compliance Officer in Charge Cliff Rank (left) presents a plaque as Assistant Chief Joe McLin (center) and retiring Investigator Dick Wagner look on.

-Story by Joe McLin
Photo by Bruce Clutter
Food Stamp Program

Compliance Office Meets and Honors Investigator

The mid-year meeting of the Trenton Area Compliance Office marked a time of fellowship and farewell. As in the five other area compliance offices, out-stationed investigators gathered to discuss goals for 1990, new investigative policy and procedures, including an expanded working relationship with the Office of the Inspector General, and to receive their annual performance evaluation.

Additionally, the Trenton office bade farewell to Investigator Richard Wagner, a charter member of Compliance Branch, who retired after 13 years as an investigator and a total of 39 years of Federal service. As is customary, Wagner was the subject of a ceremonial roasting by his fellow investigators. With his departure, the number of Compliance Branch investigators is now 43.

MPRO Awards NET Mini-Grants

MPRO has again offered Nutrition Education and Training (NET) Program mini-grants to private and parochial schools and residential child care institutions in Colorado, through its regional office-administered program (ROAP). Eight grants of \$300 each were awarded this year.

The NET mini-grants are awarded with a twofold purpose. They provide funds for nutrition education and training materials or activities that interface with an existing curriculum--such as health, social science, physical education, home economics, etc. They also increase student awareness of nutrition and the importance of proper eating to overall good health.

All 91 Colorado ROAP schools and institutions were encouraged to apply for the grants. Applications had to include a proposal for use of the funds, a statement of need, objectives,

(MPRO Continued)

details about beginning and ending dates of the project, ages and school-grade levels of children involved, and a projected budget. Proposals received were then evaluated on the basis of need, objectives, and activities.

This year's eight winners were All Souls School of Englewood, Annunciation School of Denver, Child Opportunity Program of Denver, Grand Mesa ATC of Grand Junction, Griffith Center of Larkspur, Laradon Alternative School of Denver, Savio House of Denver, and St. Joseph Grade School of Denver. When the project ends in June, each participant will submit a summary report, including photos of activities and copies of any materials developed with grant funding.

-Story by Joanne Widner
MPRO Public Affairs Staff

MARO Sponsors State Processing Conference

MARO recently sponsored a State Food Processing Conference held in New Hope, Pennsylvania. There were approximately 50 State and Federal representatives present.



From left to right are Joe Weingart, Food Distribution Program chief, and MARO Regional Administrator Christopher Martin confer with AMS representatives Pete Hitch and George Kablesh.

The meeting began with Food Distribution Program and National Commodity Processing Program updates by Dave Seger, Food Distribution Division, and George Rogers, Nutrition Technical Services Division. Jim Borda of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) provided information on the quality control aspect of the state processing program.



A live demonstration of how to cut up a chicken to get the maximum yield was given by Ray Greenfield from the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). He also discussed yields of mechanically/hand-deboned poultry, and poultry byproducts. MARO staff together with Greenfield reviewed poultry end product data schedules with state representatives. Meat and pork end product yield and price data schedules were also reviewed.

Other issues included FSIS' responsibility to end products that are CN-labeled; total and partial quality control; new grading certificates being used by AMS; audit handling procedures of CPA audits; and other chicken, beef, and pork issues.

The final day entailed an update on the National Association of State Agencies for Food Distribution prototype contract. MARO staff concluded by

(Conference Continued Page 6)

Friday Letter Vacancy Listing by Vacancy Number

JOB TITLE	AREA OF CONSID.	SERIES	GRADE	CLOSING DATE	VACANCY NUMBER	OFFICE LOCATION
o Supvry Food Prog Spec.	(A)	GM-0120	13	06/26/90	90-30*	FDD
o Mail Clerk	(A)	GS-0305	4/5	06/04/90	90-77	HNIS
o Nutritionist	(A)	GS-0630	9/11	06/11/90	90-79	NTSD
o Food Program Officer	(A)	GM-0120	14	06/18/90	90-80	FDD
o Management Analyst (FNS-HQ)		GS-0343	12	06/05/90	90-81	IRMD
o Food Program Officer	(A)	GM-0120	15	07/09/90	90-82	WRO
o Clerk Typist	(LCA)	GS-0322	2/4	06/04/90	90-83	HNIS
o Program Analyst	(A)	GS-0345	9/12	06/25/90	90-84	OAE
o Program Analyst	(A)	GS-0345	9/13	06/25/90	90-85	OAE

Office Location

HNIS - Human Nutrition Information Service
 FDD - Food Distribution Division
 NTSD - Nutrition and Technical Services
 Division
 OAE - Office of Analysis and Evaluation
 IRMD - Information Resource Management
 Division
 WRO - Western Regional Office

* - Reannouncement

Area of Consideration

(A) - All Sources
 (FNS-HQ) - Food and Nutrition
 Service-Hdgrs.
 (LCA) - Local Commuting Area

(Conference Continued)

providing state distributing agents with a copy of suggested items to be considered in special provisions sections, which should be used in their school year 1991 contracts.

It was generally felt that the conference was both informative and educational.

-Story and photos by Kim Jabat
 MARO Public Affairs Staff

Mary E. Kennedy, Editor

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